



CALPEEK

CALIFORNIA POLITICAL WEEK

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Public Funding of Sports Facilities

CAMPAIGN '98: WILL PADRES CARRY THE DAY WITH PROP. "C" TO BUILD A NEW BASEBALL STADIUM???

Editor's note: The San Diego Council placed Prop. C on the Nov. 3rd ballot. This is an up or down vote on whether the city should help the *San Diego Padres* build a new 42,000-seat stadium at a cost of \$411 million. Here's our update & commentary...

...The city's portion is \$275 million, with the *Padres* putting up \$115 million. There's about \$21 million that can't be accounted for. Of the \$115 million that the *Padres* are putting up, some of that money can be recovered because under this deal the *Padres* get to sell the naming rights to this new downtown ballpark. A recent poll in the *San Diego Union-Tribune* shows "C" ahead: **48% to 31%**, with **21%** undecided. The private polls show the plan with more than **50%** support...

...But there's growing opposition to "C." The County Grand Jury issued a report saying that voters don't have enough information to make an informed decision. And Don Bauder, *Union-Tribune* financial columnist, says that "C" spells a 4-letter word: RISK!!! In the U-T survey, 61% said they thought the *city assumed most of the risk* in this deal vs. only 13% who felt the *Padres* had the most exposure. The *Padres* contend that without a new ballpark, the team will face economic hardship. Millionaire sports owners and millionaire baseball players facing *economic hardship* doesn't sell, especially when 54% San Diego voters are still POed over the questionable *Charger* deal of last year...

...There is a formal opposition committee: *Strike 3 on Prop. C*, with co-chairs Chris Michaels and Diane Dixon. Problem is that the opposition doesn't have much money and our sources say YES on C is already buying spots on the major slate mailers...

...The key problem with this deal is that payback is supposed to come from the existing hotel tax --- and the assumption is that there will be a 10% increase in tourism each year over the next 2 decades to payback the city funds. Who knows what tourism will be in '99 or 2000 if the economic crunch in Asia does not improve? True, any cost overruns on construction will be picked up by the *Padres* and the stadium will eventually be owned by the city. But overall, Bauder is right...

...FYI: there is a group of downtown property owners who are currently in negotiations with the *Padres*. If a deal can't be reached by the end of September, our sources say these downtown businesses will have no choice but to fight Prop. C. Stay tuned...

CAMPAIGN '98: CENTRAL VALLEY UP FOR GRABS.

Editor's note: Control of the Calif. Assembly & State Senate could hinge on how well Demos & GOP candidates perform in 5 ADs and 1 SD on Nov. 3rd in the Central Valley. Here's our update and analysis...

☒ **17th & 26th ADs** - Two years ago, Mike Machado(D-17) and Dennis Cardoza(D-26) had very tough races. Cardoza won by about a 100 votes. But what a difference two years makes! In the primary, Machado got **63.6%** vs. Manteca Councilman Jay Smart(R) and insiders believe Machado is *safe* for Nov. 3rd. Ditto with Cardoza, who got **63.3%** against Turlock businesswoman Patty Hollingsworth(R)...

☒ **12th SD** - The 26th & 25th ADs are nested inside this district now represented by Sen. Dick Moneith, a *get along, go along* GOP back bencher. He's battling former Assemblyman Sal Cannella(D), a solid moderate Dem who is working the 12th SD very hard. The 12th SD has a 46.77%(D) vs. 39.35%(R) registration, meaning this is a tough race for the Demos. Making it even

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tougher is a long-standing feud between Cannella and popular U.S. Rep. Gary Condit(D-Ceres) and Cardoza. To win, Cannella must stomp Moneith in the 26th and hold his own in certain areas of the 25th. **Leans GOP**, but it's on our *watch list*...

☒ **28th AD** - The key question: will Demos again try to oust Assemblyman Peter Frusetta(R)? The 28th AD has a 51.3%(D) registration, meaning the right kind of Demo could win here. Salinas Mayor Alan Styles (D) has a base and isn't at all like two-time loser Lily Cervantes. Two years ago, the Demos described Frusetta as "All hat, no cattle," but the rancher from Tres Pinos proved popular with voters and Cervantes got mashed. **Leans GOP**, but will remain on our *watch list* because of registration...

☒ **31st AD** - This is the Demo seat of Cruz Bustamante that the GOP thinks it can win. This is a must defend seat for Demos because registration is 55.7% (D). The Demo is community college administrator Sarah Reyes, who has been endorsed by law enforcement. Her GOP opponent is Kingsburg farmer David Jackson, a pro-gun/anti-abortion conservative. The GOP is trying to portray Reyes as another Lily Cervantes and will make a major play for this seat, which is nested inside Sen. Jim Costa's 16th SD. Costa appears to be in good shape. Gray Davis and Bustamante may have coattails to aid down ballot Demos in this area...

☒ **30th AD** - GOP Assemblyman Robert Prenter of Bakersfield is on the Demo target list. This was a Demo seat and has a 51.27%(D) registration. Prenter moved into the area from Southern Calif., but in 1996 never faced a Demo. In 34-year-old Dean Florez, an investment banker with a Harvard MBA, the Demos hope to recapture this seat, which went to Clinton in '96. Florez is 3rd generation Kern Co. and his mom, Fran Florez, is a Shafter councilwoman. Florez has solid political connections. The GOP must defend. Look for a big bucks battle down to the wire. Our sources rate this match as a **toss up**. Stay tuned...

SOME INFO YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT CALPEEK.

Here is some helpful information about Calpeek that you may need to know. Deadlines for news and Marketplace Network: 12 noon each Wednesday. **Calpeek** is printed and mailed each Thursday. Our fax is (310)657-4340; e-mail calpeek@aol.com. **Calpeek** does NOT make refunds on cancellations...

CAMPAIGN '98: MORE DOWN BALLOT CONTESTS.

Editor's note: The Los Angeles Times has released its new survey taken between Sept. 12-17 among 684 likely voters. We'll again run this newest data with the past findings in other polls and supply any other bits of info that might interest readers...

☒ **Lt. Governor** - The earlier Mason/Dixon poll and the Field Poll (mid August) both show Demo Assemblyman Cruz Bustamante of Fresno leading State Sen. Tim Leslie(R-Carmichael) by 6-12 pts. Now Leslie is marginally ahead, but he's yet to break 29%...

	<u>M/D</u>	<u>Field</u>	<u>LAT</u>
Bustamante(D)	41%	35%	28%
Leslie(R)	29%	29%	29%
Undecided	30%	36%	42%
Other			1%

☒ **Attorney General** - This contest between State Sen. Bill Lockyer(D) and Chief Dep. AG Dave Stirling (R) is one of the closest, with the lead going back and forth. FYI: Stirling won his legal fight and thus his new ballot title will be Chief Deputy Attorney General (instead of Deputy Attorney General)...

	<u>M/D</u>	<u>Field</u>	<u>LAT</u>
Stirling(R)	37%	26%	30%
Lockyer(D)	35%	35%	31%
Undecided	28%	39%	39%

☒ **Secretary of State** - In this contest, incumbent SOS Bill Jones(R) faces Demo Michela Alioto. In the early summer Jones held a 15 pt. lead, but the gap has narrowed in the last two surveys...

	<u>M/D</u>	<u>Field</u>	<u>LAT</u>
Jones(R)	46%	36%	34%
Alioto(D)	31%	30%	29%
Undecided	23%	34%	37%

☒ **Insurance Commissioner** - Incumbent IC Chuck Quackenbush(R) is perhaps the luckiest Statewide candidate in this election cycle. Despite the perception he's in the insurance industry's pocket because of all the money he took from them in '94, his Demo opponent, Assemblywoman Diane Martinez, is perhaps the most unpopular member of the legislature. She's even hated by many in her own caucus. Here's how they stand in the 3 polls...

	<u>M/D</u>	<u>Field</u>	<u>LAT</u>
Quackenbush(R)	43%	41%	42%
Martinez(D)	26%	35%	34%
Undecided	31%	24%	23%
Other			1%

CAMPAIGN '98: NEW POLLING DATA ON INITIATIVES.

Editor's note: Here's another update on 3 of Calif.'s hot ballot measures, with analysis...

◆ **Prop. 10** - This is the cigarette surtax initiative sponsored by actor/director Rob Reiner. The new *L.A. Times* survey shows this measure ahead by a margin of **53% vs. 37%** with **10%** undecided. The Field Poll showed #10 ahead by a **56% to 34%** margin...

◆ **Prop. 9** - There have been 3 news media polls taken on this utility initiative to rollback SB 1890, the bill which set up the utility deregulation effort now underway in Calif. The numbers in the *L.A. Times* poll show #9 ahead, despite the fact that for the past month the NO on 9 side has been on radio & tv bashing this initiative. Here's the data:

	<u>M/D</u>	<u>Field</u>	<u>LAT</u>
YES	57%	20%	34%
NO	19%	43%	20%
Undecided	24%	37%	46%

...FYI: Sources say NO on 9 polling shows a large undecided and healthy lead for the NO side - close to what the Field Poll reported...

◆ **Prop. 5** - This is the Indian Gaming initiative, sponsored by about 30 Calif. tribes who want to legalize slot machines at their tribal casinos. We have 4 media polls: M/D = Mason/Dixon and E/C = Election Connection.

	<u>M/D</u>	<u>Field</u>	<u>E/C</u>	<u>LAT</u>
YES	53%	53%	54%	59%
NO	31%	28%	29%	28%
Und.	16%	19%	17%	13%

...The YES side has managed to turn this campaign into a *David vs. Goliath* situation, with the Nevada casinos acting like Gen. George Custer. So there's lots of sympathy for the Indians and voters seem to be moving *in favor* of #5, not against it. Perhaps it has been the mix of tv ads against #5 which hasn't clicked - or maybe there's just no way to stop #5. In a way, this campaign reminds some of **Prop. 4** back in **1956** when the major oil companies went after the Calif. independent oil companies. Although the independents were outspent by big oil, the independents ran a well funded gorilla campaign that defeated big oil. Stay tuned...

CAMPAIGN '98: UPDATE ON U.S. HOUSE CONTESTS.

Editor's note: Here's another update on key U.S. House races in Calif...

☒ **3rd CD** - There's a big Demos for Ose fundraiser in Sacto on Sept. 28th at the home of Demo political consultant David Townsend and his wife Sharon Usher, longtime friends of Doug Ose, the GOP nominee for Vic Fazio's U.S. House seat. Other Demos on the invite list include Fazio's former finance chair Stan Hazelroth, former Truman Club pres. Randy Schaber, Sacto Councilman Jimmy Yee, Citrus Heights councilmembers Roberta MacGlashan & James Shelby and former Sacto Co. Sup. Toby Johnson...

☒ **24th CD** - A new poll for U.S. Rep. Brad Sherman(D) by pollsters Fairbank Maslin Maullin show the incumbent leading GOP challenger Randy Hoffman by a margin of **45% to 18%**, with **6%** for others and **33%** undecided. Hoffman is on cable tv with a :30 sec. ad, but Sherman looks fairly strong at this time because Hoffman, despite spending \$400,000+ in the primary, is still unknown to **81%** of the likely voters. The FMM survey was taken Aug. 11-16, 500 likely voters...

☒ **44th CD** - It's slightly old news, but for the record, Demo House candidate Ralph Waite has pulled the plug on his campaign to oust U.S. Rep. Mary Bono (R-Palm Springs). Waite's name will still be on the ballot, but he won't be actively campaigning...

CAMPAIGN 98: CITY AND COUNTY CONTESTS.

Editor's note: Here's another update on some key local elections taking place in Calif...

◆ **S.F. Co. Board of Supes** - There's a new survey which shows Sup. Tom Ammiano (a Mayor Willie Brown enemy) leading Sup. Mabel Teng (a Brown ally) by a margin of **41% to 38%**. The survey of 600 was done by David Binder Research. There are five supes spots up for grabs this November, with 8 serious candidates in the running. The supervisor candidate who finishes first is the Board Chair for the next two years. Rounding out the rest of the field -- in 3rd was Gavin Newsome with **30%**, followed by appointed Sup. Amos Brown at **24%** and in 5th, Victor Marquez, also at **24%**. Out of the running in this poll was appointed Sup. Mark Leno with **20%**; Donna Casey at **18%**; and Rose Tsai at **8%**...

◆ **San Marcos** - This city in San Diego Co. has an unusual term limit measure facing voters. Measure Y prohibits consecutive terms, but there is no life time ban on running. The author is a Fred Zilliox. Needless to say councilmembers are not happy campers and have placed their own charter amendments on the ballot as alternatives. One calls for an outright ban on term limits, while the other places a 2-term limit on elective offices in the city...

◆ **Berkeley** - Measure H is a proposal to require a 35 hour work week for the city - and if approved - this law would apply to all those firms who do business with the city. So the Berkeley business establishment has joined forces with labor to fight this wacko plan. Sacto-based Media & Associates (Kevin Reikes) is handling the NO on H campaign...

◆ **L.A. Co. Sheriff's Update** - Incumbent Sheriff Sherman Block has been endorsed by the Assn. of L.A. Deputy Sheriffs(ALADS); the L.A. Co. Professional Peace Officers Assn.(PPOA); and by the L.A. County Federation of Labor(AFL-CIO). All three endorsements are solid, but the AFL-CIO's backing is really an important win by Block...

CALPEEK'S INFOBAHN: POLITICAL SHORT TAKES.

Editor's note: Here are few items, political and otherwise, worth noting...

■ **U.S. Senate Update** - The new *L.A. Times* poll shows that for the first time incumbent Demo U.S. Sen. Barbara Boxer has fallen behind her opponent, CA Treasurer Matt Fong(R). Among likely voters, Boxer trails Fong by a 48% to 43% margin. The recent Field Poll showed the race dead even. In order to win, **Calpeek** sources say Boxer will have to go negative in her tv ads to drive up Fong's negatives, which stand at only 14%. Boxer's negatives are at 33% in the LAT poll...

■ **Antonio Bashing** - Remember how the Assembly Republicans would take such delight in bashing Speaker Willie Brown by sending out mailers into swing ADs with photos of Brown on the front? Well, it's now Demo Speaker Antonio Villaraigosa's turn to get hit. The latest Assembly GOP A/V hit mailer (going to 400,000 homes) has a photo of both Antonio and Pres. Bill Clinton. FYI: take a look at Clinton's

numbers: they're UP! And check this out: in Orange Co.'s **45th CD** (Rohrabacher), a poll of 350 likely voters shows Clinton's approval rating at **54%** (after the release of the Starr report)...

■ **Defense of Marriage Initiative** - Backers of an initiative statute to prevent *gay marriages* turned in 675,000 signatures Sept. 21st. If it qualifies, it would be presented to voters in June of 2000. The language is very simple: "Only marriage between a man and a woman is valid or recognized in Calif." The key backer of the measure is State Sen. Pete Knight(R-Palmdale). FYI: Already qualified for June of 2000: Gov. Pete Wilson's juvenile crime initiative, a statute which would impose the death penalty for gang-related murders and indeterminate life sentences for carjacking, witness intimidation or drive-by shootings...

■ **NO on George/Chin Update** - *Citizens for Judicial Integrity*, the committee aimed at ousting CA Supreme Court Chief Justice Ron George and Assoc. Justice Ming Chin, has received its first big donation: James Holman, publisher of the *San Diego Reader*, gave the committee \$20,000. New website for the anti-George/Chin group is www.stopgeorge98.org...

CALPEEK'S NEW JOBS AND PERSONNEL NOTICES.

Editor's note: Here are some items to mark down in your notebook...

● A sad note: former Appeals Court judge, U.S. Congressman and State Assemblyman George Danielson(D) died Sept. 12. He was 83 and had been retired since 1992. R.I.P...

● Darryl R. Wold, of counsel to Reed & Davidson, has been named to the Federal Election Commission by Pres. Clinton. FYI: Jeffrey E. Langan has joined the R&D firm as an associate...

● Political consultant Roger Lee, president of San Jose-based Strategy Source, has relocated to the firm's new DC office at 1329 Connecticut Ave., NW, #200, Washington DC 20036 - ☎(202)296-4200...

● The Valley Industry & Commerce Assn.(VICA) has a new HQ: 20121 Ventura Blvd., #203, Woodland Hills, CA 91364. New ☎(818)226-6466...